has been made in the fight against tuberculosis, but the war period caused the mortality rate for this disease again to go up. In 1900 the death rate for tuberculosis was 23 per 10,000 each year; in 1936 it had decreased to 16. After the war the country was divided into 25 TB districts, each headed by a tuberculosis specialist whose sole duty is to fight this disease with the best methods available. The total number of beds in the large, modern TB hospitals is at present 5,700.

The following table shows the annual causes of mortality in the period 1941-45:

I. Infant diseases	2,000
II. Diseases of old age	5,736
III. Infectious diseases	11,501
1. Typhoid	117
2. Paratyphoid	100

743 In addition many organizations perform
758 voluntary work in the field of public health. The most important of these is General Mannerheim's Child Welfare League, which maintains clinics all over the country and formerly even took care of the training of the health nurses. It also maintains a special children's center, the Children's Castle, in Helsinki, for the training of nurses. In 1947 there were 1250 stations, communal and private, for maternity and nursing advice in the country.

743 The following table shows the general pro-
759
758 gress in medical care during the time of Finland's independence:

	1917	1947
Hospitals	303	550
Beds in hospitals and lunatic asylums	10758	29150

743 759 Number of physicians employed by the State and the communes	450	966
Doctors in private practice	195	580
Dentists	209	1075
Pharmacists	327	427
Midwives	799	1171
Practicing nurses	1000	5000
Public health nurses	-	855
Mental hospital nurses	-	275

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Hospital beds (December 31, 1949):

Type of hospital	State	Communal groups	Cities	Rural communes	Private	Altogether	Per 1000 persons
General	4295	--	1925	1999	1752	9971	2.53
Mental	1470	5289	1915	60	63	8797	2.24
Tuberculosis	210	4249	886	86	710	6141	1.56
Maternity	434	--	424	349	298	1505	0.38
Venereal diseases	370	--	--	--	--	370	0.09
Epidemic diseases	--	--	1083	1750	--	2833	0.72
Epilepsy	--	--	--	--	161	161	0.04